

## Ky Scoffs at Charge CIA Fired Him in '63

SAIGON, April 19, (AP)—Ky. "He said it was groundless news, and there is no truth to it at all."

Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky today denied a report that the CIA fired him for smuggling opium in 1963.

The report, made to the Senate Foreign Expenditures subcommittee, said Ky commanded air crews in a secret CIA operation flying saboteurs to North Vietnam and took advantage of the setup to fly opium from Laos to Saigon.

"The Vice President just laughed when he saw the story," said a spokesman for Ky. "He said it was groundless news, and there is no truth to it at all."

The spokesman added that Ky took part in the flights over North Vietnam, "but he would not get involved in smuggling. You know he pays no attention to matters about money."

The U.S. Embassy has also denied the charge.

The Senate subcommittee's staff director, Joseph Lippman, made the report available yesterday with the stipulation that the source could not be identified.